

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

ACDA-05 SAM-01 IO-10 MC-02 AID-05 BIB-01 /081 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GDKULICK:CRJ

APPROVED BY ETF: EWMULCAHY

AF/E:WBCOOTE

USIA:MR. FENHAGEN

VOA:MR. HEIL (SUBSTANCE)

S/S-O: ASHANKLE/MTANNER

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R 192313Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 037713

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: EPMG PROTEST RE VOA

REF: ADDIS ABABA 1907

1. ETHIOPIAN CHARGE MEKBIB, ON INSTRUCTION FROM HIS GOVT, CALLED ON MULCAHY FEBRUARY 19 TO FORMALLY REGISTER EPMG'S PROTEST RE VOA BROADCAST REFTEL. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED THAT AMERICAN PRESS WAS INDEPENDENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT CONTROL, AND THEREFORE VIEWED PRESS REPORTAGE PHILOSOPHICALLY. HOWEVER, WHEN VOA, OFFICIAL ORGAN OF USG ABROAD, BROADCASTS STATEMENTS CONCERNING DELICATE U.S.-ETHIOPIAN NEGOTIATIONS, IT COULD JEOPARDIZE THOSE NEGOTIATIONS AND U.S.-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS GENERALLY.

2. MULCAHY EXPLAINED THE RELATIVE AUTONOMY OF VOA AND FACT THAT, ALTHOUGH ITS BROADCASTS GENERALLY STAY WITHIN POLICY GUIDELINES, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CLEAR EACH NEWS BROADCAST

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IN ADVANCE. SUBJECT BROADCAST, WHILE UNOBJECTIONABLE IN

SUBSTANCE, WAS UNFORTUNATELY WORDED IN MANNER THAT LINKED
ETHIOPIAN ARMS REQUEST TO WAR IN ERITREA. REPORT DREW
PRIMARILY ON STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT. MULCAHY
SAID WE HAD SPOKEN WITH VOA ABOUT THIS PROBLEM AND ASKED
THAT THEY SCRUTINIZE THEIR REPORTS CAREFULLY IN THE FUTURE.
KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, RADIO BROADCASTING
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Draft Date: 19 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GDKULICK:CRJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750060-0498
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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